A.—(*a*) The figures asked for are as follows :—

	1922.	1923.
Total number of licences issued during the first four months of	246	257
Number of licences issued for the possession of revolvers during the first four months of	44	15

There has been a reduction in the number of revolver licences because in certain cases their possession was found to be unnecessary or undesirable.

(*b*) The District Magistrate made the reduction on his own initiative.

(*c*) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the Resolution of the Government of India in the Home Department No. 2125-C (Police), dated the 21st March 1919, published at pages 528-530 of the supplement to the *Gazette of India*, dated the 22nd March 1919, of which paragraph 4 (7) (i) runs as follows :—

"Licences for revolvers and pistols will be issued only in cases of real necessity and to persons of approved character, the fee being fixed at an enhanced rate of Rs. 10............"

District Magistrates have general discretion as to the grant of licences under the Arms Act.

(*d*) The Government do not propose to interfere with the District Magistrate's discretion in the matter. A revolver except perhaps in the hands of a very expert marksman is of no value as a means of destroying wild animals.

(*e*) The Government are not prepared to appoint a committee to advise the District Magistrate regarding the issue of licences.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, in the answer to question No. 15 it is said that the District Magistrate made the reduction in the number of licences on his own initiative. May I know whether any police report was received in those cases to say that licences should not be issued ?"

The hon. Mr. A. R. KNAPP :—"I have no information as to the procedure adopted by the District Magistrate in refusing licences."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I wish to know, Sir, whether the parties concerned were given notice to explain why their licences should not be cancelled."

The hon. Mr. A. R. KNAPP :—"I have no information, Sir ; but if the hon. Member wishes to obtain the information, he may give notice of a fresh question."

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

Influenza-vaccine tubes.

16 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of influenza-vaccine tubes prepared in the years 1921 to 1923 in the King Institute and the rate at which they were sold to the public ;

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(*b*) how many of them were sold or sent on demand to Government institutions; and

(*c*) whether the number of tubes manufactured was far in excess of the demand for them, and whether the large excess was buried under-ground, and if so, the number and cost of the tubes so buried?

A.—(*a*) The amount of influenza-vaccine prepared during the years 1921–1923 in the King Institute was as follows:—

Year.	Cubic centimetres.
1921	4,070
1922	15,820
1923 from January to 24th November ...	7,235

Till October 1921 the rate charged for the vaccine was two annas per cubic centimetre. Since then it has been supplied free of cost to the public in British India.

(*b*) The quantity supplied to Government and other institutions was as follows:—

	Government institutions. Cubic centimetres.	Other institutions. Cubic centimetres.
1921 ...	18,609	2,971
1922 ...	8,030	4,950
1923 from January to 24th November ...	5,370	940

(*c*) No. None of the stock manufactured in the years 1921–1923 was destroyed; but the stock manufactured in 1919 at the request of the Government of India was destroyed in April 1923, as in October 1920 the Government of India approved the manufacture of new strength vaccine and as it was impossible to convert the old strength vaccine into new strength vaccine.

Repairs to the Srirangam temple.

17 *Q.*—Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) if the Resolution of this Council to appoint a Committee to report about the repairs to the Srirangam temple has been accepted by the Government and if a Committee has been appointed;

(*b*) if the Committee has begun its work; and if so, to what extent?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Committee met once at Trichinopoly and perused the records available. Before proceeding further, the Committee thought it desirable to examine certain pleas of the temple trustees and appointed a Sub-Committee consisting of the Collector of Trichinopoly as President, Sir T. Desikachari and Mr. T. C. Tangavelu Pillai to examine them. The report of the Sub-Committee is awaited.